



## MINUTES

# Maritime Advisory Board

**April 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

Virtual Meeting

The Maritime Advisory Board (MAB) of the City of Annapolis held its regularly scheduled public meeting on April 18, 2023. **Chair** Lomax called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Board Members Present:** **Chair** Tarrant Lomax, Alan Miller, Duncan Hood, Debbie Gosselin, Scott Allan, Frieda Wildey, Mike Tomasini, Peter Trogon

**Others Present:** Alderman Ross Arnett, Stephen Rice, Economic Development Manager, Jake Iversen, Watermark Tours, Burr Vogel, Department of Public Works, Tyler Northfield, Deputy Harbormaster

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **1. March 23, 2023**

Mr. Hood moved to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2023 meeting as amended. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

### **II REGULAR/OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Status of Street-End Parks upgrades**

Mr. Vogel reported that the grant has been extended for two years through 2025. Staff will begin working on the project as soon as City budget is adopted in July, 2023.

Mr. Northfield said that work is expected to begin on Cheston Avenue in mid May.

#### **B. MIAB Report**

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No meeting of the Maritime Industry Advisory Board was held in March. Mr. Miller will attend the April meeting and provide an update to the MAB.

C. Economic Development Update

The Economic Development Office supported 30 businesses in March, and 2 new businesses opened. The overall vacancy rate is approximately 6.4%. The Seasonal Parklet Program launched yesterday. The Outdoor Parking Lot Pilot Program is underway, and in effect until October, 2023. Regarding the Economic Development budget, a hearing is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> with the Finance Committee with the City Council, and there will be further discussions at the Economic Matters Committee.

The Hillman Garage Grand Opening is being planned, with expectation that it will be operational in June.

The Annapolis Blues, the City's minor league soccer team, will play at Navy Marine Corps Stadium, and the season opener is June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

A Speed Lending Event is planned in coordination with the Small Business Administration and the Maryland Small Business Development Council and it will be held at 10 a.m. on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center.

The Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show will be held from April 28 to April 30.

D. Status of Maritime Task Force Annual Reports

Economic Development staff have identified 46 relevant properties, but only 11 reports have been received. Additional outreach has been performed via another letter requesting the reports, and adding that reports can be sent by phone or email to Stephen Rice. At this point, there is not enough data for a preliminary evaluation.

E. Truxton Park Stray Electric Current

Clint Pratt, City Electrical Inspector will be coordinating investigation into this issue.

**Chair** Lomax will invite him to attend the next MAB meeting and give an update. Current restrictions are no swimming, kayaking or paddle boarding; however, despite adequate signage warning of the risk, many park visitors are going into the water anyway.

F. Charter Dock Lease/Usage Status

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Deferred.

G. Maryland Maritime Hall of Fame

Mr. Miller visited Fort Bragg and found that their signs cost \$22,000 each. He has been in contact with at least one local vendor, and signs can be fabricated for approximately \$2,500 each, with a 5-week delivery window. These signs would be treated to protect against corrosion by salt water.

Scott Allan raised the question about whether the MAB should form a committee to work on selection, research, nominees, etc. The Board Members engaged in discussion about whether the MAB should be responsible for such a committee, whether it should fall under the Maritime Museum, whether signage at spots throughout the City may be better than maintaining dedicated building space, etc.

**III NEW BUSINESS**

A. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Mr. Allan moved to nominate Mr. Tomasini to serve in the position of Vice Chair through the next term. Ms. Wildey seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Gosselin moved to nominate Mr. Lomax for the position of Chair. Mr. Tomasini seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**IV DEFERRED/MONITOR ITEMS**

A. Boat B&B/STR/Commercial Activity

Deferred.

B. St. Mary's Living Shoreline Project

Deferred.

Mr. Trogon arrived at the meeting at 7:58 pm.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

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With there being no further business before the Board, Mr. Allan moved to adjourn. Mr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Kimberly Consoli, Recorder

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